

SESSIONS OF THE METEOROLOGICAL SECTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEODESY AND GEOPHYSICS,
ROME, ITALY, MAY 4-9, 1922.

By HERBERT H. KIMBALL.

[Weather Bureau, Washington, July, 1922.]

Meetings were held daily, except Sunday, from May 4 to 9, inclusive, and in addition a joint meeting with Section (D), Terrestrial Magnetism and Electricity, was held on the 5th. Sir Napier Shaw, of England, presided at all the meetings. In the absence of Professor Marvin, the secretary, Doctor Kimball, the delegate from the United States, was asked to serve as secretary pro tempore, and Professors Platania and Eredia, delegates from Italy, were designated assistant secretaries.

In all, 33 delegates were in attendance, representing most of the allied nations, and a few that were neutral, during the World War.

The Section particularly concerned itself with two subjects: (1) Its relations with the International Meteorological Committee, and the International Conference of Directors of Meteorological and Magnetic Institutions, and (2) plans for international cooperation on certain research problems.

With reference to (1) it was agreed that all questions of a routine or an administrative character should be referred for consideration to the International Meteorological Committee, the Section confining its activities to scientific problems the solution of which calls for international cooperation. Furthermore, the International Conference of Directors of Meteorological and Magnetic Institutions, which is to meet in Holland in 1923, was asked to consider if there is a duplication of work in its functions and those of the Union.

With reference to (2), resolutions were adopted providing for certain researches, the procedure for the carrying out of which will be outlined later by the Bureau¹ of the Section.

These researches include the following:

I. The determination of the quantities of hydrogen in the atmosphere in different localities and at different heights.

II. The exploration of the upper atmosphere by means of sounding balloons in regions which are of especial importance from the viewpoint of the general circulation

of the atmosphere, which regions have not at the present time an effective meteorological organization for carrying on work of this kind.

III. The exploration of the stratosphere by means of pilot balloons, in the regions of permanent high pressure, in the desert regions of the great continents, and over the Equator.

IV. The examination of the dust in the atmosphere in different countries.

V. A report on our knowledge of the radiation from the sun, the soil, the sea, and the air, from the viewpoint of the general circulation of the atmosphere.

VI. A report from the several countries affiliated with the Union on the methods they employ in weather forecasting.

VII. A study of the details of convection in the atmosphere.

VIII. Commendation of the work on solar radiation carried on by the Astronomical Observatory of Naples, and by the Astrophysical Observatory of the Smithsonian Institution of Washington.

The budget of the Section was approved as follows:

	Francs.
General expenses.....	5,000
Exploration of the air by sounding balloons.....	20,000
Exploration of the stratosphere by pilot balloons.....	5,000
Examination of the dust of the atmosphere.....	2,500
Total.....	32,500
Allotment.....	32,542

The Bureau of the Section is constituted as follows:

President, Sir Napier Shaw, England.
Vice president, Prof. C. F. Marvin, United States.
Vice president, Colonel Delcambre, France.
Secretary, Prof. F. Eredia, Italy.

The Executive Committee consists of the Bureau and the following:

Dr. G. C. Simpson, England.
M. Alex. Wallen, Sweden.
Prof. F. Gamha, Italy.

¹ The officers of the Section considered collectively are known as the Bureau.